

Is the Giving Season Over?

This past Sunday we were privileged to hear two excellent lessons related to the subject of giving. Eddy at the worship hour and Caleb Guard at the evening services.

We need to remember and incorporate each of their lessons in our daily living within this coming year. In addition, let's consider some gifts we can give throughout the year 2007 that do not cost us a cent.

THE GIFT OF LISTENING

But do you really listen? No interrupting, no daydreaming, no planning your response. Just listening.

THE GIFT OF AFFECTION

Be generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, pats on the back and hand holding. Let these small actions demonstrate the love you have for family and friends.

THE GIFT OF LAUGHTER

Clip cartoons. Share articles and funny stories. Your gift will say, "I love to laugh with you."

THE GIFT OF A WRITTEN NOTE

It can be simple. "Thanks for the help" not a full sonnet. A brief handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime, and may even change a life.

THE GIFT OF A COMPLIMENT

A simple and sincere, "You look great in red," "You did a super job" or "That was a wonderful meal" can make someone's day.

THE GIFT OF A FAVOR

Every day go out of your way to do something kind.

THE GIFT OF SOLITUDE

There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone.

Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.

THE GIFT OF A CHEERFUL DISPOSITION

The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone.

Really it's not that hard to say "Hello" or "Thank you".

Friends are a very rare jewel indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to pen their hearts to us. Show your friends how much you care. - continued

Another Journey

In a sense, life is like a series of journeys from one island to another. Almost 365 days ago we set sail for a distant shore. We could only faintly see it in the distance, but we knew it was there. Like the island we had just left, this one, too, held challenges anew and difficulties to face. It would also hold great joys and accomplishments. Strong prevailing winds have pushed us swiftly along and now this once-distant island is clearly in view before us. This

island is the New Year. However, we will only get to stay for a brief time on the shores of 2007. For, no sooner have we made landfall than we must begin our journey to 2008. Strong prevailing winds will push us just as swiftly and the approach of that now distant landscape will soon spread out before us.

As is the case with each journey, some will not make it from one island to the next. None of us knows how many such landfalls he will get to make. Some who began the journey to 2007 did not complete the trip. New travelers, however, joined us along the way. Our journey has been constant. We were never able to slow the pace or pick up the speed. Neither will we have such control of this next trip.

Although at this time of year the focus of this journey is the landfall, the vast majority of our time is spent in the journey itself. What are we doing with the time between the islands? At midnight tonight we will arrive at 2007. Its sands are unspoiled, its opportunities are limitless and its prospects are numerous. At the same time we will also begin our journey to 2008. More to be considered than our arrival at the beginning of 2007 is how we will use the days of our journey toward 2008. As we walk ashore on 2007 let us pause briefly and look back at 2006. How was your journey? How did you use the days that were afforded you? Do the prospects for 2007 look any brighter? Why not step into 2007 with your best foot forward and a renewed commitment to the Lord's Cause and make it the best one yet!

Happy New Year!

-Eddy

Teens

December meeting dates:

Dec. 31—Teen Devo / game night after services

Winter Area Devotionals:

January 6—Radford 6-7:30

February 3—Christiansburg 6-7:30

March 10—Lake Drive 6-7:30

Dates for Teens:

February 24 Mock Bible Bowl

March 3, 2007 Southwest Virginia Bible Bowl

June 17-23, 2007 VCC

July 1-6, 2007 Horizons Senior Week

July 8-13, 2007 Horizons Junior Week

Is the Giving Season Over?

Thanks for a congregation of truly giving people. "There is no side like West Side".

- The Elders

Kitchen Update

The kitchen is now a functioning kitchen!!! And I'm sure it will be used a lot!! The old kitchen is now gone and it has been painted, tiled and new baseboards. Storage shelves will be added for all cleaning supplies and the like. This is not a junk room.

On the front of the building, the crew worked hard to install new pipe for drainage so that we don't have water in the foyer after heavy rains. Sidewalks have been poured and they can be walked on but they hope to finish the sidewalk early next week.

Thank You!

Thank you for the many expressions of kindness and love for us during the holiday season. We appreciate every gift, card and thought of best wishes from you. We are deeply appreciative of you and grateful for the privilege of serving with you. We pray that 2007 will bring much prosperity for the Lord's kingdom and much happiness to each of us at West Side.

With our love, Eddy & Jeanny

West Side's Older Workers

The WOW meeting will be Tuesday, January 9 at 10:30. Plan on helping to collate the 2007 Plan of Works booklets.

Team Events

We now have new teams, so make sure you check the yellow insert and find out what team you are on. Your Team Leader will be in touch with information about upcoming events. Plan now to participate in these group activities! Also check out this area every week to find out what your team is planning.

Team 1 - Tom Duff

Will be having a planning session on January 13. Time to be announced.

Team 2 - Bob Garby

Team 3 - David Brown

Team 4 - Tom Rogers

Will be having a get-to-know-you pot luck next Sunday, Jan. 7, after morning services.

TEAM LEADERS: This section will be in the bulletin every week. E-mail any events to the office before Friday 8 AM.

IRS Requirement

Effective January 1, 2007, the IRS will begin requiring a receipt for any charitable donations given in cash that you wish to claim as a deduction on your tax return. If you currently give your contributions in the form of a check, your cancelled check will suffice as a receipt. If you currently place cash in the plate and still wish to claim the money as a deduction (or even wish to claim the standard deduction) you will have to obtain receipts from the church to provide to the IRS. In order for the office to be able to keep track of the funds and provide receipts, all cash donations need to be placed in an envelope with your name on it before

SICK

Marquerite Charles will be having out patient procedures Jan 2 & 16 to improve her long-range health.

Bessie Gilpin, Eddy's grandmother, will be moved to a hospice care center soon.

C.E. Mannon, minister at Laurel Hills, is in the hospital at Radford.

Cynthia Neighbors Shepherd, former attendee, has a recurrence of malignancy in her chest.

Remember the following in prayers: **Teresa White, Larry Phillips, Luetta Gregory, Glenna Richardson, Dan Hudgins, E.V. & Effie Wimmer, Buddy Martin.**

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Alma Shelburn**, aunt of **Bobby Martin**, who passed away last week.



Happy Birthday this week to:

Squeaky Valentine—12/31

Nancy Benefield—1/1

Amanda Brown—1/3

Chandler Jearls—1/5

Ben Munsey—1/5

Miles Quesenberry—1/7

Erin Simms—1/7

Happy Anniversary this week to:

Jim & Charlotte Harrington—1/1



MILITARY: **Ty Stricklin** at 29 Palms Marine Base, **Jonathan Simpson, John Shannon** and **Gabriel Hayes** who are in Iraq. **Jonathan Chumley**, Kosovo.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY ITEMS FOR STAFFORDS: Pepperoni and Crystal Light (assorted fruit flavors). Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!!



DIRECTORIES

The directories should have been shipped late last week.

WEDDING SHOWER

There will be a wedding shower/pot luck meal after services next Sunday, 1/7, for Allison Stricklin (JoAnn's daughter-in-law). Hosted by Jeanny Gilpin, Lisa Valentine, Michelle Earnhart and Melissa Rogers. Bring your favorite dish and recipe for the bride.

Because they are in California please purchase **gift cards only** from Walmart, JC Penney, or Sears. These cards will be displayed (gift tree or something else) so please do not enclose them in congratulation/shower cards.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Wednesday Fellowship Meal, 1/10 at 5:45 pm. Menu: Lasagna, salad, rolls and dessert. Sign up and pay your \$5 to an elder before 1/7.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

There will be a Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Famous Anthony's on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 8 AM.

HOUSE 2 HOUSE LABELING

The H2H labeling will be on January 14 at 4 pm.

NEW MEMBERS DINNER

At long last, there will be a New Members Dinner on January 20, 2007 at 5:45. Menu and sign up sheet will be posted on the board.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ty & Allison Stricklin who were married Tuesday, December 19, in California.



Also, Ashley White and Brent Jones got engaged on Christmas. They are planning a May wedding.

More Congratulations:

Kylie White was born on December 28, 2006 to Jeremy and Jessica White. She weighed 6 lbs, 7 oz. All are doing well including grandparents, Barry & Gloria, and great-grandmothers, Evelyn and Grace.



After burying the hatchet,

January 2007**Announcements** Danny Guard**Song Leader (AM)** Eric Earnhart**Opening Prayer (AM)**

1/7 Mike Durham

1/14 Gary Sartain

1/21 Jim Bush

1/28 Luke Guard

Preside at Communion Jeff Durham**Serve Table**

T. Rogers J. Black

G. Durham M. Brooks

Closing Prayer

1/7 Grat Tucker

1/14 Walter Jenkins

1/21 Glen Hartman

1/28 Jim Cooke

Song Leader (PM) Adam House**Opening Prayer (PM)**

1/7 Greg Edwards

1/14 Charles Gwaltney

1/21 Charles Maness

1/28 Collin Gregory

Scripture Reader

Ethan Rogers

Closing Prayer (PM)

1/7 Gene Benefield

1/14 Richard Simms

1/21 Jerry Anderson

1/28 Squeaky Valentine

Serve Table (PM) J. Harrington A.C. Janney**Song Leader (Wed)** Tom Richardson**Prayer (Wed)**

1/3 Tom Duff

1/10 Fred Altizer

1/17 David Brown

1/24 Glen Gabbard

1/31 Mitch Jearls

Door Man David Brown**Greeters** Neighbors Argabrights**Nursery Attend** K. Anderson A. Brown**Ushers** Bob Garby Roger Mays**Handouts** Mike & Bradford Durham

Tom & Preston Duff

Alternates L. Shrader D. Brown**Prepare comm.** G. Myers M. Wood**Last weeks attendance** 12/24&27/2006

Bible Class—157 Worship Service—180

Eve. Worship—110 Wed. Service—136

Contribution—\$4277

December 31, 2006